Demolitions Produce Recyclable Materials for Organization Promoting Economic Activity

PIKETON, Ohio — Demolitions have helped generate more than 8 million pounds of metal at the Piketon site for recycling, further promoting economic activity in the region thanks to the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.

Proceeds from recycling that metal through the unique program will add to the more than \$2.8 million already generated from recycling more than 5.2 million pounds of material from site demolition efforts.

"This metal represents economic opportunity for the surrounding community, as proceeds from this material will create local jobs, utilize surrounding area facilities and generate money to be reinvested back into the community," said Pete Mingus, who is with the recycling and recovery program at DOE contractor Fluor-B&W Portsmouth.

The Southern Ohio Diversification Initiative (SODI), a community reuse organization whose mission is to improve the quality of life in the region through economic diversification, development of underutilized land and facilities at the Piketon site, and continued support of local industry, is leading the recycling effort.

"We continue to look closely at every building and structure we take down to find ways to recycle the material generated and return it to the community for every possible opportunity to boost the local economy. Reuse and recycling is one of our top priorities," DOE Site Director Dr. Vincent Adams said.

Surrounded by early morning fog, Pete Mingus of Fluor-B&W Portsmouth's recycling and recovery program reviews inventory in front of a pile of metal that was part of the X-533 facility at the DOE Piketon site. Despite high heat and humidity this spring and summer, work has continued at a remarkable pace to recycle the recovered metal materials and return funds to the communities surrounding the plant through the Southern Ohio Diversification Initiative.

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Pete Mingus, with the recycling and recovery program at DOE contractor Fluor-B&W Portsmouth

DOE is providing the metal and other clean demolition debris and usable equipment from the cleanup effort under the direction of Fluor-B&W. Through an agreement between DOE and SODI, the materials are transferred to SODI, which then sells them to recyclers through a competitive bid process to support economic development in Ross, Pike, Jackson and Scioto counties.

"We've come a long way since this effort began," SODI Executive Director Steven Shepherd said. "Recent changes in management and continued support from DOE have greatly enhanced our abilities to put these materials and assets to use to benefit our community efforts."

DOE is scheduled to demolish 314 buildings at the Piketon site. Excess personal property and clean, excess material will be offered to SODI for use at DOE's discretion.